4 9 8

Rome 17th October 1889

My dear brother

I hope you will think the following poetry some apology for my brothers letter

Donde viene, e dove vai,
Zefiretto lusinghier,
Sol per che non torna mai
La stagione del piacer:

Deh me lascia un fior che dia
Pace almeno al mio pensier:
Non ho fiori; e dalla via
Mi risponde un sospir.

I say pieces, for perhaps the second one is not worth sending, yet I think it has so much in it as most of the English things, but of course you will judge for yourself, I am sure you will like the first, it is really beautiful, and just now it was written between the statue of Flora a few months ago, your brother saw it, and the Pope was just by for you, I hope soon to find some others for you. A young friend of mine who was here last week

Io sono lunto, che non oso
Col pensare ad altro oggetto
Il Tuo Volto, altero aspetto
Vola sempre al mio pensier
E di mia non ho riposo
Sol pensando, che tu sei
La cagion di mole mesi
Gioia un' ombra di piacer.

used very often to sing your songs to us, indeed if you should admire the first one enough to put down to it I shall beg the favour of you to send her a copy of it. We are going on a few days to Sherborne a little village about twenty miles from home the peasants sing so prettily on the Yorkshire there that our little Charlotte (who learned many of their songs and I hope will sing them to you next year should we make out our intended visit to London

Rowland's 22d: 4 30

My dear Tom.

After the last of trouble I have been in since I last took you by the hand must be my excuse for not writing before - The saddest part but one was the long & dreadful fits of my little sister Jane in consumption which were so threatning an aspect that I never could find courage to write you - Now that she is much recovered & that we are once more settled at Alfpuddle I have great pleasure to tell you so & have a bit of chit chat.

Now I wonder how you all are? I wrote to Charles in the winter, when I had very little hope of seeing you in the Spring, but the said causes I have mentioned above

upset all my plans, & I am [illegible] thankful that I am make here as well please God next year— We are just now all getting off to the mountains to enjoy the Vintage & the cool a little for we have [illegible] the summer stile, & no signs of a change. I have been in Rome all the summer hard at work on a picture for the Emperor of Russia & another for Mr Dickens of Charleston, both representing a Roman Ave Maria with the Pantheon in the background seen faintly by twilight & faintly by the full moon.— About the middle of November you may see it at Mr Boggs's from me Condait St. Boad St if you wish— & why should you not take your accomplished Ladies the Cauthorns; first making sure that the picture is arrived & then making all kind of kind Compliments to those kind Ladies & to Mr Cauthorne for there great kindness to me & who here in the presence of every kind of object that can be good & great I never forget— Remember me also most kindly to Mr & Mr Berry & tell him his friend Mr Leahy is here & that I like him & his painting very much & also his wife he has done a beautiful picture of Mary Stuart leaving France— My Eliza has sent you a pretty song which I trust will suit nicely adapted to music, we make it quite Italian, that is with the undulating motion in it— you Boy you never let me have the "Rose" I had a large box of books & in it, it was not— Give my dearest love to my Mother & Maria, how I long to come & see you again

which I hope will be next spring, & with my eyes open, for my last visit was quite a dream - Remember me to my dear Sister Charlotte whom I only saw once, & to Charles & his dear wife who I hope are well - I dare say you seldom get a sight of each other in that big city of yours, Lord what a place that is! there's nothing like it - have you ever been to see my dear friend Dr Thompson who was so kind to me in London Neck? I can never forget it or repay him? —

Believe me my dear Tom
Your affectionate brother Joe

Tell me how you like my pictures & how dear Jem & Charley are getting on —

Thomas H. Severn Esqr
Mr Bury Surgeon &c
Bury Street. Covent Gn.
London

LONDON
4
NOV
1833

When do you know if Catherine Stark & Rebecca Benedict like all other honest people - for I should like to see you & your "Cara Sposa Inez" what harmony we'd have - Now don't think of not writing by return of Post. for now that I am calm once I am longing to hear of you all, & don't be too scanty in your words, but give a full account, & if you are crossed & can't let Charles "sip me a little pulaver" - did he or you ever find the book Mr Bond sent me thro' you or him, Do tell me this & find it